

**What is claimed is:**

1. A portable terminal comprising:

a storage device which stores secret data;

a system unit which receives said secret data from said storage unit to carry out a predetermined

5 process associated with said secret data;

a signal transfer line set which is provided between said storage device and said control unit and on which a control signal and said secret data are transferred, said control signal relating to the

10 transfer of said secret data; and

a control section which is connected to said signal transfer line set and validates transfer of said control signal from said storage device to said system unit or from said system unit to said storage  
15 device on said signal transfer line set to permit the transfer of said secret data.

2. The portable terminal according to claim 1, wherein said storage device is detachable, and said secret data is personal data of user.

3. The portable terminal according to claim 1, wherein said storage device is a detachable electronic money card, and said secret data is electronic money data.

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5. The portable terminal according to claim 4, wherein said system unit carries out said predetermined process when said secret data is received from said storage device within the predetermined time period after said control signal is outputted from said system unit to said storage device.

6. The portable terminal according to claim 4, wherein said system unit determines whether a total amount of electronic money used within a predetermined time interval is equal to or less than a predetermined amount of electronic money when said secret data is received from said storage device within the predetermined time period after said control signal is outputted from said system unit to said storage device, and carries out said predetermined process when it is determined that the total amount of electronic money used within the predetermined time

interval is equal to or less than the predetermined amount of electronic money.

7. The portable terminal according to claim 6, wherein said system unit stops said predetermined process when it is determined that the total amount of electronic money used within the predetermined time  
5 interval is larger than the predetermined amount of electronic money.

8. The portable terminal according to claim 1, wherein said control section comprises:

a switch section which generates a valid signal in response to operation of said switch section  
5 by a user; and

a control circuit which operates to permit transfer of said control signal in response to said valid signal such that the transfer of said secret data is permitted.

9. The portable terminal according to claim 8, wherein said switch section generates an invalid signal when said switch section is not operated, and

said control circuit operates to inhibit the  
5 transfer of said control signal in response to said invalid signal such that the transfer of said secret data is inhibited.

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10. The portable terminal according to claim 8, wherein said switch section includes at least a button.

11. The portable terminal according to claim 10, wherein said portable terminal has a side surface on which said switch section is provided.

12. The portable terminal according to claim 11, wherein a concave surface is formed in a portion of said side surface and said switch section is provided on said concave surface.

13. A portable terminal comprising:

a detachable storage device which stores secret data;

a system unit which outputs a control signal  
5 to said storage device, receives said secret data relating to said control signal from said storage unit, and carries out a predetermined process associated with said secret data when said secret data is received from said storage device within the  
10 predetermined time period after said control signal is outputted from said system unit to said storage device;

a signal transfer line set which is provided between said storage device and said control unit and

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15 on which said control signal and said secret data are  
transferred; and

a control section which is connected to said  
signal transfer line set and validates said control  
signal from said system unit to said storage device on  
20 said signal transfer line set to permit the transfer  
of said secret data.

14. The portable terminal according to claim 13,  
wherein said system unit stops said predetermined  
process when said secret data cannot be received from  
said storage device within a predetermined time period  
5 after said control signal is outputted from said  
system unit to said storage device.

15. The portable terminal according to claim 13,  
wherein said system unit further determines whether a  
total amount of electronic money used within a  
predetermined time interval is equal to or less than a  
5 predetermined amount of electronic money when said  
secret data is received from said storage device  
within the predetermined time period after said  
control signal is outputted from said system unit to  
said storage device, and carries out said  
10 predetermined process when it is determined that the  
total amount of electronic money used within the  
predetermined time interval is equal to or less than

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the predetermined amount of electronic money.

16. The portable terminal according to claim 15,  
wherein said system unit stops said predetermined  
process when it is determined that the total amount of  
electronic money used within the predetermined time  
5 interval is larger than the predetermined amount of  
electronic money.

17. The portable terminal according to claim 13,  
wherein said control section comprises:

a switch section which generates a valid  
signal in response to operation of said switch section  
5 by a user; and

a control circuit which operates to permit  
transfer of said control signal in response to said  
valid signal such that the transfer of said secret  
data is permitted.

18. The portable terminal according to claim 17,  
wherein said switch section generates an invalid  
signal when said switch section is not operated, and

said control circuit operates to inhibit the  
5 transfer of said control signal in response to said  
invalid signal such that the transfer of said secret  
data is inhibited.

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19. The portable terminal according to claim 17,  
wherein said switch section includes at least a  
button.

20. A portable terminal comprising:

a detachable storage device which stores  
secret data;

a system unit which outputs a control signal  
5 to said storage device, and receives said secret data  
relating to said control signal from said storage unit  
to carry out a predetermined process associated with  
said secret data;

a switch section which generates a valid  
10 signal in response to operation of said switch section  
by a user; and

a control circuit which operates to permit  
transfer of said control signal from said system unit  
to said storage device in response to said valid  
15 signal such that the transfer of said secret data from  
said storage device to said system unit is permitted.

21. The portable terminal according to claim 20,  
wherein said system unit stops said predetermined  
process when said secret data cannot be received from  
said storage device within a predetermined time period  
5 after said control signal is outputted from said  
system unit to said storage device.

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22. The portable terminal according to claim 21,  
wherein said system unit carries out said  
predetermined process when said secret data is  
received from said storage device within the  
5 predetermined time period after said control signal is  
outputted from said system unit to said storage  
device.

23. The portable terminal according to claim 20,  
wherein said system unit determines whether a total  
amount of electronic money used within a predetermined  
time interval is equal to or less than a predetermined  
5 amount of electronic money when said secret data is  
received from said storage device within the  
predetermined time period after said control signal is  
outputted from said system unit to said storage  
device, and carries out said predetermined process  
10 when it is determined that the total amount of  
electronic money used within the predetermined time  
interval is equal to or less than the predetermined  
amount of electronic money.

24. The portable terminal according to claim 23,  
wherein said system unit stops said predetermined  
process when it is determined that the total amount of  
electronic money used within the predetermined time  
5 interval is larger than the predetermined amount of

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electronic money.

25. The portable terminal according to claim 20, wherein said switch section generates an invalid signal when said switch section is not operated, and

said control circuit operates to inhibit the  
5 transfer of said control signal in response to said invalid signal such that the transfer of said secret data is inhibited.

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